



Gregory J. Swain, County Attorney

MEMORANDUM

To: Members, Anne Arundel County Council

From: Lori L. Blair Klasmeier, Deputy County Attorney /s/

Via: Gregory J. Swain, County Attorney /s/

Date: September 3, 2019

Subject: Resolution No. 31-19 – Nominating Nilesh Kalyanaraman, M.D., FACP as County Health Officer

Legislative Summary

This summary was prepared by the Anne Arundel County Office of Law for use by members of the Anne Arundel County Council during consideration of Resolution No. 31-19, which requests approval of the nomination of Nilesh Kalyanaraman, M.D., FACP, to serve as County Health Officer.

Purpose. The purpose of this resolution is to approve the County Executive's nomination of Nilesh Kalyanaraman, M.D., FACP, as County Health Officer.

Background. There has been a vacancy in the office of County Health Officer since Jinlene Chan, M.D., M.P.H., left office in May of 2017. Frances Phillips served as Acting Health Officer from June of 2017 through August of 2018, and Billie Penley has been serving as Acting Health Officer since August of 2018.

The County's Health Officer is nominated by the County and appointed by the Secretary of the Maryland Department of Health. (§ 3-302(a) of the Health-General Article of the State Code). State law requires that the County codify its nomination process. As set forth in § 2-1-603 of the County Code, the County Executive submits the name of a candidate to the County Council by resolution, and, if the County Council approves the resolution, the name of the nominee is submitted to the Secretary of the Maryland Department of Health.

A county health officer must meet the following qualifications: (1) a master's degree in public health and at least two years' work in the field of public health, or, in the alternative, at

least 5 years' work in the field of public health; (2) any other qualifications and training in the field of public health that the Secretary requires by rule or regulation; and (3) need not be a physician if the health officer has a deputy who is a physician and meets the requirements for a county health officer. (§ 3-302(d) of the Health-General Article of the State Code). We are not aware of any other qualifications required by rule or regulation of the Secretary of the Maryland Department of Health.

The County Executive is proposing to submit the nomination of Nilesh Kalyanaraman, M.D., FACP, to serve as County Health Officer to the Secretary of the Maryland Department of Health. Dr. Kalyanaraman meets the qualifications set forth in § 3-302(d) of the Health-General Article of the State Code.

Summary. This resolution approves the nomination of Nilesh Kalyanaraman's to serve as Health Officer for Anne Arundel County.

Please let me know if there are any questions.

cc: Honorable Steuart Pittman, County Executive
Jennifer Purcell, Chief of Staff
Benjamin J. Birge, Chief Administrative Officer
Peter Baron, Legislative Liaison
Sherri Dickerson, Personnel Officer